to improve nutrition among children, only Kerala met the target of 25 per cent decline in malnutrition;

(b) if so, whether three others States, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and U.P. met the target substantially, over 90 per cent of the target;

(c) if so, the details of position of seven other States, State-wise;

(d) what are the main reasons put forward by them for not utilizing the allocated amount; and

(e) what steps are being taken by the central Government to urge States to utilize funds and improve their position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In Rajasthan, 98% of the intended target was achieved. As regards other six States, namely, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa and Uttaranchal there was no provision for Baseline/Endline Survey under the Project and therefore their position was not known. These States were included on restructuring of the ICDS-III Project originally for a period of 2 years only with limited interventions, viz., civil works, Adolescent Girls Scheme and innovatives.

(d) and (e) The entire amount released to the States was utilized by them. The World Bank assisted ICDS-III had ended on 31.3.2006.

Financial irregularities in CSWB

3694. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI :
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the financial irregularities in the functioning of the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB);

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether the Board has sanctioned the projects of NGOs and has provided financial grants, which were not even applied for; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the steps Government has taken against the persons responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.